



The Weekly Page

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 5

FEBRUARY 11, 2005

Pages Learn About Legislature

Pages write bills

On Monday and Tuesday, each page wrote a bill designed to solve a problem. Topics for bills included driving age, noise control, reduced school hours for high-schools students, and cell-phone use. They reflect real issues that affect teen-age lives in Washington State. Once bills were printed, pages solicited so-sponsor signatures.



Making A Real Democracy

Today, Representative Jonathan Dentler introduced House bill 1888, which addresses the issue of Political unawareness and disinterest in the young people of Washington State. "The bill is a good one because healthy democracies depend on an informed and interested public. In an era where only fifty percent of eligible voters are using their privileges on a regular basis, something needs to be done in order to insure that the next generation is one that votes," said Representative Dentler. This bill would essentially put all students in the Washington Public School system through a program which would educate them on the political process of the State Legislature. Each student would then author one bill, using the real bill format used in the Capital. Each classroom would then nominate one bill. Each school would then nominate one bill from amongst the classroom bills. These final bills would be submitted to the house, for debate and passage. Hopefully, this would give all students a feeling of real participation in the government. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Feb. 9, 2005.

Doctors Abusing Prescriptions

Today, Senator Jennifer Fox introduced Senate bill 6209, which addresses the issue of doctors abusing their position and prescribing unnecessary medication. "The bill is a good one because patients have less of a risk of purchasing prescription medication that will cause long- or short-term side effects," said Senator Jennifer Fox. This bill requires doctors to explain their reasons behind each prescribed medicine. It also requires them to leave patients with the option of seeking out another professional opinion, so they know the benefits and disadvantages of the prescription. In addition, the bill briefly discusses penalties if the doctor is caught not following one of the policies within the bill. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

What A Bill!!!

Today, Senator Adrienne Goodrich introduced Senate bill 6725, which addresses the issue of public school education. "The bill is a good one because it ensures that school children are not hearing outdated and wrong information as well as hearing both sides of the issue of the universe's origin. If only one side of an issue is ever posed, how can we expect any of these kids to understand what is going on in the field of science? This bill ensures that public school children will be told both sides of the issue and facts that have been proven wrong are not to be fed to kids," said Senator Adrienne Goodrich. This bill says that Evolution and Creation should be taught together in public schools and old evolutionary information that has been proved wrong is not to be taught as facts. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

Is Your Birthday Keeping You Safe?

Today, Representative Carly Jansen introduced House bill 2598, which addresses the issue of equal sentencing. "The bill is a good one because everyone needs to know that when you commit a crime you will receive the appropriate punishment," said Representative Carly Jansen. This bill was drawn because individuals committing the exact same crimes were receiving different sentences. They are receiving different sentences because one is under 18 and another is over 18, even though they both have the same understanding of right and wrong. The bill

was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

Board game simulates bill process

On Tuesday, pages played a board game designed to simulate for them the process by which a bill becomes a law in Washington State. They came to understand that only about ten percent of the bills that are introduced actually become laws. They also experienced the frustration of having a bill “die” in the middle of the process.



Innocent Smoking? Think Again.

Today, Senator Shin Elizabeth Kim introduced Senate bill 7117, which addresses the issue of smoking. “The bill is a good one because it prevents exacerbation or health and/or innocent deaths caused by second-hand smoking,” said Senator Shin Elizabeth Kim. Any person smoking within 20 feet of another person must have the neighboring person's approval. If the smoker a.) fails to ask for the neighboring person's consent or b.) proceeds to smoke even after the neighboring person does not allow and/or asks the smoker to stop, the smoker is guilty of a misdemeanor. This bill will become effective 30 days after signature by the Governor. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

A Bill To Give Our Kids Healthier School Lunches

Today, Senator Nathan McClure introduced Senate bill 6751, which addresses the issue of School Lunches. “The bill is a good one because providing a healthier lunch system will keep our kids healthier and help them to grow,” said Senator McClure. The bill said that schools would be required to provide a healthier alternative to the greasy hamburgers and hot dogs they have now. They will also be required to give out nutrition facts for the meals that they served. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 8, 2005.

School Lockers

Today, Representative Johanna McIntyre introduced House bill 1444, which addresses the issue of school lockers. “The bill is a good one because it limits the number of strained

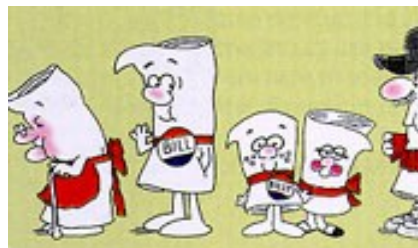
backs backpacks induce and provides a convenient place to store your books and homework,” said Representative Johanna McIntyre. This bill would require all schools to install lockers and put aside at least 1% of its budget to their maintenance. It would also require the state government to pay for the installation of the lockers and to make sure the budget they give the schools is enough so that the schools will be able to maintain the lockers. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on 2/9/05.

School Starting Schedules

Today, Representative Hannah Omdal introduced House bill 4918, which addresses the issue of Middle and High Schools starting later than Elementary School because of the more intense work load. Teens should be able to sleep in because of all that is asked of them. “The bill is a good one because the teens should be able to get the sleep that they deserve and have earned from all of the hard work that they put in,” said Representative Hannah Omdal. Teenagers should be able to sleep in because they have a more intense work load than elementary school kids. They have more homework which calls for more energy.. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

I'm Just A Bill video provides review of bill process

After playing the Bill Process Game, pages viewed the video *I'm Just A Bill*. Many of them stated that they remembered viewing this in elementary school. This short video accurately illustrates all of the steps in the process.



Can You Imagine...

Today, Representative Reeder introduced House bill 2334, which addresses the issue of indecent television media. “The bill is a good one because what our youth see of T.V needs to be regulated,” said Representative Reeder. this bill will be our key to making sure that television corporations don't allow inappropriate movies or shows to be played while our children are watching. youth wont be faced with the violence or profanity they witness from TV. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on 2/9/05.

Evolution In The Public Schools

Today, Representative Taylor Trippe introduced House bill 2352, which addresses the issue of Evolution in the public school system. "The bill is a good one because it will provide pupils with adequate knowledge of all sides of evolution and prevent misunderstandings on the theory," said Representative Taylor Trippe. The bill will force every governmentally funded school to include scientific evidences for and against the theory of evolution, as well as other theories regarding the existence of earth and life in their curriculum. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.



Change electoral college?

Today, Representative Mekao Tramil introduced House bill 2401, which addresses the issue of Electoral College votes. "The bill is a good one because the people's vote will have more value and their president will give their favorite president a dramatic increase of victory for office," said Representative Mekao Tramil. This bill is to promote state governments to dismantle their electoral college and only use the popular votes. The vote counting would be smoother and more organized. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2008.

Smith Moves To Save Lives, Assault Weapons Ban Introduced

Today, Representative Tyler Smith introduced House bill 2000, which addresses the issue of banning assault weapons from Washington's communities. "The bill is a good one because the time has come to purge our neighborhoods of the tools of hate that assault weapons are," said Representative Smith. The bill would ban assault weapons from the entire State of Washington and impose strict punishments on violators. Family groups have applauded the bill as a crucial step in the fight for safe streets. "It is clear that Representative Smith is pro-family, anti-crime and the right choice for the people of his district," said Jane Doe, President of the Families and Kids Coalition. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9th, 2005.

Pages lobby their own bills

Pages practiced several lobbying techniques as they encouraged their colleagues to support their bills in committee hearings. They created posters, white papers, and speeches. In addition, pages completed media releases for this newsletter.

Let Youth Work

Today, Senator Jordan Fagerlie introduced Senate bill 7777, which addresses the issue of people under 16 not able to work in public places. "The bill is a good one because they can buy their own stuff without begging their parents," said Senator Jordan Fagerlie. This bill will help all the people that are like me and want to work but cannot. So as you make a mark on your paper for yes or no, know that you are making a good decision. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

Senior Driving

Today, Senator Gabriel Volpe introduced Senate bill 5001, which addresses the issue of Senior Driving requirements. "The bill is a good one because the lives of the people are protected and the benefit to the senior citizens of Washington are at a lesser risk from harm and to cause it," said Senator Gabriel Volpe. This bill states that persons of the age of 65 or older are required to retake their written and driving tests, the tests can be taken up to three times and must be retaken every ten years after that. If the senior fails all three times their licenses are revoked, they pass the tests then their insurance decreases 5% every ten years. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Feb 9, 2005.



WASL Is A Threat

Today, Representative Adam Baughman introduced House bill 1111, which addresses the issue of Graduation Requirements. "The bill is a good one because it will help those students who have a possibility of not passing the WASL as well as those who will pass the WASL but will need help with college tuition funding," said Representative Adam

Baughman. This bill will help increase the number of students who will graduate each year from High Schools around the state. It will also give financial aide, whether needed or not, to those who pass the WASL. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

Fixing our election system

Today, Representative Gary Belvin introduced House bill 1234, which addresses the issue of The Election Process. "The bill is a good one because it fixes the security holes in our current election system. In this last election the results were close enough to bring out the lack of verification of voter eligibility. This was largely due to the tremendous task of manually checking the millions of paper votes. In my bill I plan to fix this problem by converting our current paper system to electronics. In order to thwart the computer hackers out there the system will also be backed up by a paper system. By using the electronics of today we can easily and quickly check the voter's voting eligibility," said Representative Gary Belvin. This bill would require a reregistering of all voters to get rid of invalid voters. It would then equip all places for voting with the appropriate equipment and mandate the back checking of the voter's living status, criminal status, and verify the voter's residence. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on 2-9-05.

Committees debate bills, vote

Pages participated in simulated committee hearings on Wednesday. They read their bills and 'committee' members, governed by the rules of parliamentary procedure, and debated the pros and cons of the bills. Amendments were proposed, some of which passed, most of which did not. When pages voted on bills, many ideas were passed on to an imagined legislative body.



Representative John Baran Helps To Prevent Teen Pregnancies And The Spread Of STD's

Today, Representative John Baran introduced House bill 1742, which addresses the issue of teen pregnancy. "The bill is a good one because it will reduce the number of teen pregnancies and also help stop the spread of dangerous diseases such as HIV/AIDS," said Representative John Baran. The bill states that schools and public offices should have free

condoms readily available to anyone who wants or needs them. This will help the prevention of teen pregnancies and spread of STD's because if the teenagers can have condoms available to them, then they will use them to protect themselves. If schools do not comply with the bill if its passed into a law, they will have their school licenses revoked until they comply with the new law. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

Legalizing Marijuana

Today, Representative Keegan Conway introduced House bill 2424, which addresses the issue of the legalization of marijuana. "The bill is a good one because it will reduce crime and provide state funding," said Representative Keegan Conway. This bill will legalize marijuana for personal use and have it treated as alcohol and cigarettes are. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.



Representative Dave Quall

Too Much Homework!

Today, Senator Kaitlyn Savage introduced Senate bill 5269, which addresses the issue of Early Learning, K-12 & Higher Education. "The bill is a good one because it will lower stress on 4th-12th graders state wide," said Senator Kaitlyn Savage. Will make sure that grades 4-12 only have 3 hours max. of homework per night. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2004.

Age Of Teachers Teaching The Kids

Today, Senator Richie Westphal introduced Senate bill 4848, which addresses the issue of age of the school teachers. "The bill is a good one because in regards to the stress on kids in today's society with homework in different classes some classes have teachers who are over the age of fifty and think they need so much homework and are not up to date with computers, internet, and other ways of learning," said Senator Richie Westphal. teachers over the age of 50 shouldn't teach unless they go back through school. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

Quall, Kagi, Cody visit, speak, answer questions

Representative Dave Quall D-40, Representative Ruth Kagi D-32 and Representative Eileen Cody D-34 joined the pages during their classes on Thursday. Each of them told students about how they came to be involved in politics and were elected to their offices, and they discussed issues they are working on during this session. Pages were able to interact with these guests.



Representative Ruth Kagi

Child Abuse Yay Or Nay?

Today, Senator Chelsey Kramer introduced Senate bill 5432, which addresses the issue of child abuse. "The bill is a good one because it limits the way children can be punished," said Senator Chelsey Kramer. The bill states that any assaulter towards a child whether it be mentally or physically shall be punished. The punishment consists of a jail sentence of no less than 50 years and while in jail the assaulter must do 5 hours of community service each day with victims of abuse.. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 09, 2005.



Representative Eileen Cody

NO Hand Recounts

Today, Senator Matt Cave introduced Senate bill 5477, which addresses the issue of hand recounts. "The bill is a good one because it increases the accuracy in state elections, no more uncertainty," said Senator Matt Cave. The bill prohibits the use of a hand recount in any state election. This

bill would create clarity to who won and it would reduce the confusion of a recount. Under this bill no recount would take place except by machine. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

Capital Punishment

Today, Senator Kadeana Barnard introduced Senate bill 7999, which addresses the issue of Capital Punishment (death penalty). "The bill is a good one because it states that any one who murders someone shall be given the death penalty," said Senator Kadeana Barnard. The bill will make it so that any one who murders some one will be given the death penalty. It also states that any one under the age of 18 shall wait till they are 18 and trail there murder trial to see if they will go to jail or receive the death penalty. The bill will make it so that there will be less crowding in the jail cells. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

Bill Would Make Loud Music Illegal

Today, Senator Thomas Beirne introduced Senate bill 6344, which addresses the issue of car noises. "The bill is a good one because too many people are getting away with disruption of the peace, and unnecessary endangerment of fellow drivers," said Senator Thomas Beirne. This bill allows law enforcement officers to ticket anyone who is playing music in their car at a level high enough to distract other drivers. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 10th, 2005.

Budget debate stirs emotions

Using actual state budget figures, pages debated how to balance the state's operating budget. Their task was to make up a \$2.65 billion deficit. "Is it always this hard?" asked a page as the debate intensified.



Air Bags Contain Deadly Poison

Today, Senator Tessa R. Wyllie de Echeverria introduced Senate bill 6529, which addresses the issue of Sodium azide in air bags. "The bill is a good one because sodium azide is a deadly poison and needs to be taken out of cars," said Senator Tessa R. Wyllie de Echeverria. This bill will stop sodium azide from contaminating landfills and make it harmless so

people can not use it has a poison. This bill will not cost the state any money. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Feb. 9, 2005.

Stop Abortion

Today, Senator Lindsie Wold introduced Senate bill 5999, which addresses the issue of Abortion. "The bill is a good one because abortion is killing an unborn child and it needs to be stopped," said Senator Lindsie Wold. There are so many people these days that have and give abortions because they do not consider it murder. It is murder and it shouldn't be taken as lightly as it has been. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

School Is Changing!

Today, Representative Michael Fawthrop introduced House bill 1234, which addresses the issue of School Hours. "The bill is a good one because School is Cool," said Representative Michael Fawthrop. This Bill is great because students will be more energized for the day with more sleep. Schools will have more time in the day as well to teach, with more breaks. The students will also be less likely to cause trouble because parents and students will arrive home at the same time. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

Segraves Pushing School Curriculum Bill

Today, Representative Sierra Segraves introduced House bill 2532, which addresses the issue of school curriculums. "The bill is a good one because it will ensure that all students have learned all the same information, giving them equal opportunities, especially when taking the WASL," said Representative Segraves. The bill will standardize school curriculum across the state for basic classes. It will provide all new materials for teachers and students, including books and assignments. As a result, school taxes will be raised to provide additional funding, and some schools may receive fines for not conforming to the standards. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 10, 2005.

Pages celebrate, mingle at Thursday pizza party

Thursday afternoon, pages took a break from their regular duties and socialized with each other while eating pizza. This was an opportunity for House and Senate pages to mingle.



Landmark Legislation For Cell-Phone Users

Today, Representative Nathan Arnold introduced House bill 1666, which addresses the issue of cellular phone use in motor vehicles. "The bill is a good one because it will dramatically reduce the amount of traffic fatalities and money spent on traffic accidents," said Representative Nathan Arnold. The bill will make it a traffic violation to use a computer while driving a car. The maximum fine is \$300. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 09, 2005.

Teen Pregnancy Solution

Today, Senator Zena McCurdy introduced Senate bill 5160, which addresses the issue of Teen Pregnancy. "The bill is a good one because it will prevent teens from getting pregnant and have a solution if they do," said Senator Zena McCurdy. Explain bill in two or three sentences. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on Feb. 9, 2005.

Senator Sidorowicz Creates Bill To Legalize Marijuana

Today, Senator Mary Lee Sidorowicz introduced Senate bill 5888, which addresses the issue of the legalization of marijuana. "The bill is a good one because people will be able to use alternative methods of healthcare and reduce crime that is associated with the illegal distribution of the drug," said Senator Sidorowicz. Bill 5888 will make marijuana use legal for citizens to use for medical or recreational purposes. Similar to alcohol use, marijuana will be legal to purchase for people who are 21 and over, unless prescribed by a doctor. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

Page School on the web

The Page School has its own web site. You can find us at: www.leg.wa.gov/common/pageschool/default.htm. This newsletter will be posted to the web early next week.

WASL Requirement Dropped

Today, Representative Randy Anderson introduced House bill 1337, which addresses the issue of kids not having to pass the 10th grade WASL. "The bill is a good one because some kids are not good at testing and aren't the smart compared to others," said Representative Randy Anderson. This bill is about the 10th grade WASL and how kids should not have to pass it to be able to graduate, a lot of kids are not as smart as others. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

Senator Tim Draluck Fights For Election Reforms

Today, Senator Tim Draluck introduced Senate bill 5123, which addresses the issue of the election process in Washington State. "The bill is a good one because simplifies, unifies, and makes the entire election process non-partisan," said Senator Tim Draluck. This bill will require a paper trail for the government and the individual, so vote can not be tampered with. It also requires that all ballots are uniform. Finally, the bill makes a new non-partisan office called the Commissioner of Elections. His job is to oversee the election process. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

Bill for equalization created

Today, Senator Daniel Fox introduced Senate bill 7219, which addresses the issue of the mechanisms used to fund bridges. "The bill is a good one because it equalizes the way in which bridges throughout the state are paid for," said Senator Fox. Bill 7219 is an attempt to require all bridges built for public use by state or local governments to be paid for in the same way. It was inspired by the massive opposition to the way in which the new Narrows Bridge is being funded. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

Jeopardy creates hit

On Friday, pages tested their knowledge of the Legislative process in a spirited game of *Jeopardy*. Winning teams were awarded certificates and brightly colored stickers that they wore proudly for the rest of the day.



Reduce The Killing, Reduce The Killers!

Today, Representative Mallory King introduced House bill 2354, which addresses the issue of reducing the amount of Capital Punishment in the state of Washington. "The bill is a good one because it will not have as much controversy as having Capital Punishment on an inmate who has been convicted of as serious a crime. Also it will reduce the amount of escapes in prisons if our state prisons were to reduce the amount of Capital Punishment," said Representative Mallory King. This particular bill is to reduce the amount of Capital Punishment in Washington State's prisons. Inmates who have

committed and have been convicted of three or more heinous crimes will be the only ones to receive capital punishment. Crimes such as murder and rape will be on the top of the list. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

Illegal firearms

Today, Representative Sophia Margolis introduced House bill 1100, which addresses the issue of making guns/firearms illegal. "The bill is a good one because it will cut down on violence in the streets and the hunting of animals for fun," said Representative Sophia Margolis. This bill will make guns and firearms illegal to the public, the only use of guns/firearms must be approved by the governor unless being used for military, police or the killing of animals to be sold for food. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

No More WASL Requirement

Today, Representative Doug Purkeypyle introduced House bill 2695, which addresses the issue of not having the WASL. "The bill is a good one because the WASL is not an a test that can tell how smart a student is," said Representative Doug Purkeypyle. The WASL will still be taken but students in the 10th grade will not have to pass it to graduate. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

The Time We, As Students, Deserve!

Today, Representative Michael Ross introduced house bill 3633, which addresses the issue of time between classes. "The bill is a good one because this is a every day problem," said Representative Michael Ross. This bill is about the dwindling time between classes. The time between classes should be a 8 minute minimum for students and teachers to get from class to class. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

Make College Life Easier

Today, Representative Bo Qin introduced House bill 1111, which addresses the issue of lowering college tuitions. "The bill is a good one because it will promote economic growth and provide more academic opportunities to more people in America," said Representative Bo Qin. Every college in Washington State must not exceed the limited tuition of \$20,000 a year per student. Colleges that have tuitions higher than \$20,000 right now may make the choice to allow students to pay back the extra money after they have found a job for 10 years. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

Page School teachers

Page School's 2005 teachers are (*l-r*): Omar Crowder, BJ Meiggs, and Becky Parchen.



couple, and adopting children. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

Historical pages

Our legislature has employed pages for many years. These photos are of pages who served in past years. The first female page served in 1937.



Business Visas & Illegal Immigration

Today, Senator Sean McKee introduced Senate bill 7052, which addresses the issue of illegal immigration. "The bill is a good one because it controls the immigration problem that has suppressed the United States for too long," said Senator McKee. If the proposed bill is passed, immigrants with business visas with ten years of steady work will become citizens of the United States of America. To control illegal immigration from Mexico into the United States, a wall will be built along the Mexican-American border. To pay for the construction of the wall, \$15.00 will be charged to any person entering the United States from Mexico or any other. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

Changes In Teacher Pay Scale

Today, Senator Scott Weis introduced Senate bill 5697, which addresses the issue of a teacher salary reform. "The bill is a good one because it gives teachers a new incentive," said Senator Weis. The bill proposes to pay teachers based on an evaluation as opposed to the current experience scale. If the bill is passed teachers will have a random evaluation once a month and will be asked to submit their lesson plans every week. The bill was heard before the Page School legislative committee on February 9, 2005.

Abolish Gay Marriages Nationwide!

Today, Senator Evie Gustafson introduced Senate bill 5011, which addresses the issue of abolishing gay marriages nationwide. "The bill is a good one because gay marriages are wrong, go against God's laws, and tear apart families," said Senator Evie Gustafson. This bill will ban gay partners from obtaining marriage licenses, sharing the benefits of a married